BUILD UPON Framework
An Introduction for Policy Makers & Local Authorities

The BUILD UPON Framework helps cities and local authorities measure the different benefits of building renovation in a simple and consistent manner.

Why the BUILD UPON Framework is useful
Buildings account for 36% of the EU's annual greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, renovating existing buildings to reduce their carbon emissions is key to achieving the EU's ambition to reach climate neutrality by 2050. The majority of Europe's buildings will need upgrading.

Fortunately, building renovation at scale can help tackle many other societal challenges: reducing energy consumption and improving energy security; reducing energy poverty and improving health; boosting economies and supporting local skills and jobs.

Policy Makers
Understanding and measuring these benefits will inform a wide range of policy decisions.

- Climate change targets & strategies
- Energy infrastructure needs & investment
- Healthcare needs & costs
- Fuel poverty alleviation

Click here for policy recommendations and information on how EU technical assistance can be used to implement the BUILD UPON Framework.

Local Authorities
Understanding and measuring these benefits helps Local Authorities:

- Measure their progress against a broad range of targets
- Learn from mistakes and successes to inform best practice
- Build business cases for future retrofit
- Increase public awareness of building renovation benefits
- Determine future policy based on sound evidence

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How the BUILD UPON Framework works
The Framework defines Environmental, Social and Economic indicators that can be measured. It shows how to measure them and provides tools to aid data collection. This helps cities and local authorities capture data in a simple but standardised format.

The Framework is flexible, easy and free to use. It covers all buildings types. It can be used at a city level - to measure impacts across an entire area and support a city's Sustainable Energy & Carbon Action Plan; or a project level - to measure the impacts of individual projects. Local Authorities can measure all of the indicators or focus on just one or two to suit their priorities and resources.

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 840926

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The BUILD UPON Framework was developed by eight Green Building Councils from the Europe Regional Network of WorldGBC in partnership with Climate Alliance, the Building Performance Institute Europe and with support from over 30 local authorities across Europe.